

REMARKS

Claims 1, 2, 6, 8 and 9 have been cancelled. Claims 3, 4, 5 and 10 have been amended. Reconsideration and withdrawal of the final rejection are respectfully requested.

Applicants gratefully acknowledge the indicated allowability of claims 3, 4, 7, and 10. Accordingly, Applicants have rewritten claims 3, 4 and 10 into independent form. Hence, these claims are now submitted to be allowable. Further, Applicants have amended claim 5 to depend from allowable claim 4 and, claim 7 depends from allowable claim 3. The remaining claims were cancelled.

In view of the foregoing, Applicants submit only allowable claims 3, 4, 5, 7 and 10 remain pending in the application. An early notice to that effect is requested.

If there are any questions regarding this amendment or the application in general, a telephone call to the undersigned would be appreciated since this should expedite the prosecution of the application for all concerned.


If necessary to effect a timely response, this paper should be considered as a petition for an Extension of Time sufficient to effect a timely response, and

Serial No. 09/920,293

please charge any deficiency in fees or credit any overpayments to Deposit
Account No. 05-1323 (Docket #951/50202).

Respectfully submitted,

February 17, 2005



Jeffrey D. Sank
Registration No. 32,169

CROWELL & MORING LLP
Intellectual Property Group
P.O. Box 14300
Washington, DC 20044-4300
Telephone No.: (202) 624-2500
Facsimile No.: (202) 628-8844

JDS:pct
361112